

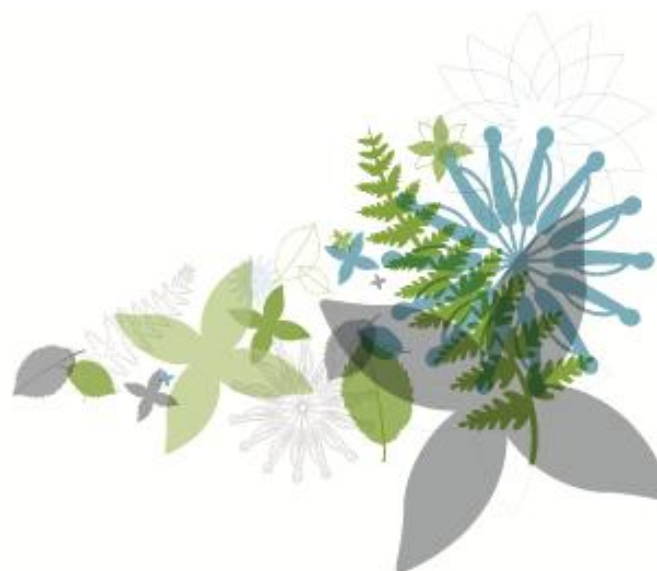


Colac Otway
SHIRE

UNSCHEDULED COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES

Tuesday 14 October 2025
at 2:00 PM

UNCONFIRMED



COLAC OTWAY SHIRE UNSCHEDULED COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday 14 October 2025

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COLAC OTWAY SHIRE UNSCHEDULED COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES of the **UNSCHEDULED COUNCIL MEETING OF THE COLAC OTWAY SHIRE COUNCIL** held at COPACC on Tuesday 14 October 2025 at 2:00 PM.

MINUTES

1 DECLARATION OF OPENING

OPENING PRAYER

Almighty God, we seek your blessing and guidance in our deliberations on behalf of the people of the Colac Otway Shire. Enable this Council's decisions to be those that contribute to the true welfare and betterment of our community.

AMEN

2 WELCOME AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Colac Otway Shire acknowledges the original custodians and law makers of this land, their elders past, present and emerging.

RECORDING AND PUBLICATION OF MEETINGS

Please note: Council meetings will be live streamed and recorded when the meeting is held either at COPACC or online. This includes the public participation sections of the meetings. When meetings are held in other locations, Council will endeavour to make an audio recording of the meeting for community access. Matters identified as confidential items in the Agenda will not be live streamed or recorded regardless of venue or mode.

By participating in open Council meetings, individuals consent to the use and disclosure of the information they share at the meeting (including any personal and/or sensitive information).

As soon as practicable following each open Council meeting, the live stream recording will be accessible on Council's website. Audio recordings are also taken to facilitate the preparation of the minutes of open Council meetings and to ensure their accuracy. Recordings will be retained by Council for a period of four years.

This meeting will be livestreamed to the public via Council's YouTube channel (search Colac Otway Shire Council at www.youtube.com).

The sole purpose of this Unscheduled Council meeting was to consider the following agenda items:

- Adoption of Council Plan 2025-2029
- Adoption of Asset Plan 2035-2035
- Adoption of Financial Plan 2025-2035

3 MEETING ADMINISTRATION

3.1 Present

Cr Jason Schram (Mayor)
Cr Phil Howard (Deputy Mayor)
Cr Chris Potter
Cr Zoe Hudgell
Cr Charlie Buchanan
Cr Mick McCrickard
Cr Chrissy De Deugd

Doug McNeill, Acting Chief Executive Officer
Rikk Price, Acting General Manager Corporate Services
Mikael Blyth, Acting General Manager Infrastructure and Environment
Ian Seuren, General Manager Community and Economy
Steven O'Dowd, Manager Customer and Communications
Matilda Hardy-Smith, Coordinator Council Business
Anita Craven, Executive Officer Governance

3.2 Apologies

Nil

3.3 Confirmation of Minutes

RESOLUTION

Moved Cr Hudgell, Seconded Cr McCrickard

That Council confirm the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 23 September 2025.

CARRIED 7 : 0

3.4 Declarations of Interest

Nil.

4 QUESTION TIME

A maximum of 15 minutes was allowed for question time. Council received no questions in writing and no questions from the gallery.

Item: 5.1 Adoption of Council Plan 2025-2029

OFFICER	Steven O'Dowd
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER	Andrew Tenni
DIVISION	Executive
ATTACHMENTS	1. Colac Otway Shire Council Plan 2025 - 2029 [5.1.1 - 8 pages] 2. Annual Action Plan 2025-26 [5.1.2 - 10 pages] 3. Colac Otway Municipal Health and Wellbeing Plan Actions [5.1.3 - 12 pages] 4. Colac Otway Shire Council Plan on a Page 2025-2029 [5.1.4 - 1 page] 5. Council Plan Submissions Summary [5.1.5 - 2 pages]

RESOLUTION

Moved Cr Potter, Seconded Cr Howard

That Council:

1. *Notes that Council has prepared a Council Plan (incorporating the Municipal Health and Wellbeing Plan) in line with the requirements of the Local Government Act 2020.*
2. *Notes that Council has received a Ministerial exemption from the Department of Health approving Council's request to combine the Council Plan and the Municipal Health and Wellbeing Plan.*
3. *Notes that the draft Council Plan has undergone a six-week public exhibition period in line with Council's Community Engagement Policy and the final document has been amended in response to community submissions.*
4. *Adopts the Council Plan 2025-2029 (Attachment 1).*
5. *Notes the Annual Action Plan that sets out year one deliverables towards realisation of the Council Plan (Attachment 2).*

6. *Notes the Municipal Health and Wellbeing Action Plan that supports community health and wellbeing for the next four years (Attachment 3), and that many of these actions are to be delivered by other agencies.*
7. *Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to make any minor administrative changes to the Annual Action Plan where required.*
8. *Acknowledges with appreciation the community members and organisations who participated in the development of the Council Plan, including submitters to the draft Plan.*

CARRIED 7 : 0

Item: 5.2
Adoption of Asset Plan 2025-2035

OFFICER	Kanishka Gunasekara
GENERAL MANAGER	Doug McNeill
DIVISION	Infrastructure and Environment
ATTACHMENTS	1. Asset Plan 2025-2035 for Adoption [5.2.1 - 30 pages]

RESOLUTION

Moved Cr Howard, Seconded Cr McCrickard

That Council:

- 1. Notes that the draft Asset Plan was placed on public exhibition for six weeks and that Council did not receive any written submissions.*
- 2. Adopts the Asset Plan attached to this report, unchanged from the exhibited version.*
- 3. Notes that a copy of the adopted plan will be placed on Council's website.*

CARRIED 7 : 0

Item: 5.3

Adoption of Financial Plan 2025-2035

OFFICER	Xavier Flanagan
ACTING GENERAL MANAGER	Rikk Price
DIVISION	Corporate Services
ATTACHMENTS	1. Colac Otway - Financial Plan 2025-26 to 2034-35 [5.3.1 - 41 pages]

RESOLUTION

Moved Cr McCrickard, Seconded Cr Hudgell

That Council:

- 1. Notes that the Financial Plan 2025-26 to 2034-35 has been prepared in accordance with the Local Government Act 2020 and is informed by deliberative engagement undertaken to inform its integrated strategic planning work.*
- 2. Notes that the adopted budget for the 2025-26 financial year forms the basis of the baseline (year 1) of the Financial Plan.*
- 3. Notes that the Financial Plan projects Council's financial position over ten years based on documented assumptions and does not predetermine financial decisions made by Council through its Annual Budget or specific resolution.*
- 4. Notes that no written submissions were received following public exhibition of the draft Financial Plan.*
- 5. Adopts the Financial Plan 2025-26 to 2034-35 (Attachment 1), unchanged from the exhibited draft.*
- 6. Notes the update provided within the report on Rate Revenue received by Geographic Area.*
- 7. Resolves that further updates on Rates Revenue by Geographic Area are no longer required to be provided annually.*

CARRIED 7 : 0

The meeting was declared closed at 2.15pm

CONFIRMED AND SIGNED at the meeting held on 28 October 2025.

.....**MAYOR**